

**Determination of the Regional Administrator
Pursuant to 40 CFR 6.107**

In accordance with EPA's procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Part 6), EPA has determined that this project is eligible for categorical exclusion under 40 CFR § 6.107 and is exempt from the substantive environmental review requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et. seq.).

Project Name: Tijuana Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation and Improvement Project

Project Sponsor: Comision Estatal De Servicios Publicos De Tijuana

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$30,000,000

Estimated EPA Grant Assistance: \$12,000,000

The proposed project is the rehabilitation and replacement of deteriorated or obstructed sewer pipes in the wastewater collection system that services the city of Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico. Approximately 131,000 meters of pipe will be repaired, representing 7.5% of the total length of the sewer system. The majority of the work will consist of slip-lining of existing pipes, approximately 20% of the project will involve excavation and replacement of pipe segments. These improvements will help reduce sewage overflows and spills to the Tijuana River from leaking or obstructed sewer pipes.

This project is consistent with the category of Categorical Exclusions specified in 40 CFR Part 6.107 (d) (1). The project is directed toward the minor rehabilitation of the existing collection system. It will not affect the degree of treatment or the capacity of the existing facilities. The project is not expected to affect cultural resource areas, endangered or threatened species and their critical habitats, or environmentally important natural resource areas. Therefore, EPA has determined that the project will not have any significant impacts on the quality of the human environment.

(Signed by Jane Diamond for Laura Yoshii)

(6/25/2001)

Laura Yoshii
Acting Regional Administrator

Date